

Lynn et.al.

09/187,284



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office**

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/187,284 11/05/98 LYNN

P PLAT1005MCF/

EXAMINER

LM02/0913

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FOUR EMBARCADERO CENTER SUITE 400
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GOOD JOHNSON, M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

10

2779

DATE MAILED:

09/13/00

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/187,284

Applicant

Lynn et al.

Examiner
Motilewa Good-Johnson

Group Art Unit
2779



☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Jun 27, 2000

☒ This action is **FINAL**.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 35 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claim

☒ Claim(s) 1-33 is/are pending in the application

Of the above, claim(s) none is/are withdrawn from consideration

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) 1-33 is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☐ All ☐ Some* ☒ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

☐ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

☐ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

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DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to communications: application, filed on 11/05/1998.

This action is made final.

2. Claims 1-33 are pending in the case. Claims 1, 10, 14 and 20 are independent claims. Claims 1, 2, 8, 9, 11, 12, 14, 15, 19-21 and 25 have been amended. Claims 26-33 have been added.

3. The present title of the application is "Method and Apparatus for Interfacing with Intelligent Three-Dimensional Components" (as originally filed).

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Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371© of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

5. Claims 1-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Carey et al., U.S. Patent Number 5,977,978, "Interactive Authoring of 3D Scenes and Movies", class 345/419, 11/02/1999, filed 11/13/1996.

As per independent claim 1, **"a method of interfacing with a three-dimensional object that is displayed, said method comprising: defining said three-dimensional object as a component with a component interface . . . containing an intelligent content; Carey et al. discloses in col. 3, lines 40-43; displaying said component interface; Carey et al. discloses in col. 3, lines 9-12; and interfacing with said three-dimensional object through said component interface."** Carey et al. discloses in col. 3, lines 12-14.

With respect to dependent claim 2, **"defining . . . comprises: defining said component in a three-dimensional content language; Carey et al. discloses in col. 5, lines 40-43; . . . at least one property to describe said component; Carey et al. discloses in col. 5, lines 55-60; and . . . at least one route to interface said component with a second component . . ."** Carey et al. discloses in col. 6, lines 14-15.

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With respect to dependent claims 3, 13, 16 and 22, “. . . **three-dimensional content language is a virtual reality modeling language.**” Carey et al. discloses in col. 1, lines 7-14.

With respect to dependent claim 4, “. . . **at least one property is selected from the group consisting of color, shape, transformation, behavioral, event handling and grouping.**” Carey et al. discloses in col. 3, lines 25-28.

With respect to dependent claim 5, “. . . **at least one route is selected from the group consisting of event and action as an event model for the component.**” Carey et al. discloses in col. 5, lines 65-67.

With respect to dependent claim 6, “. . . **component interface is selected form the group consisting of group, pickable, transformable, colorable and texture.**” Carey et al. discloses in col. 3, lines 15-28.

With respect to dependent claim 7, “. . . **component interface is selected from the group consisting of a smart property list, a smart property, a smart widget, a smart factory, a property, a property list, and extension and an extension factory.**” Carey et al. discloses in col. 6, lines 14-35.

With respect to dependent claim 8, “. . . **displaying said component interface comprises displaying said component interface on a cathode ray tube display.**” Carey et al. discloses in col. 2, lines 58-62.

With respect to dependent claim 9, “. . . **interfacing with said component comprises: providing a plurality of component interfaces;** Carey et al. discloses in col. 3, lines 60-61;

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selecting one of said plurality of component interfaces to access said intelligent content;

Carey et al. discloses in col. 3, lines 61-65; **and interfacing with said three-dimensional object . . .** Carey et al. discloses in col. 3, lines 66-67.

As per independent claim 10, **“an apparatus for interfacing with a three-dimensional object . . .”**, it is rejected based upon similar rational as above independent claim 1, **“a method of interfacing with a three-dimensional object . . .”**

With respect to dependent claims 11-12, see above rejection for dependent claims 2 and 8 respectively.

As per independent claim 14, **“a computer system for interfacing with a three-dimensional object . . .”**, it is rejected based upon similar rational as above independent claim 1, **“a method of interfacing with a three-dimensional object . . .”**

With respect to dependent claims 15, 17-19, see above rejection for dependent claims 2, 6, 7 and 9 respectively.

As per independent claim 20, **“a computer readable medium having a computer program stored thereon . . .”**, it is rejected based upon similar rational as above independent claim 1, **“a method of interfacing with a three-dimensional object . . .”**

With respect to dependent claims 21, 23-25, see above rejection for dependent claims 2, 6, 7 and 9 respectively.

With respect to dependent claims 26-33, see above rejection for dependent claim 2 above.

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Response to Amendment

6. Applicant's arguments filed 06/27/2000 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant states that during said interview an agreement was reached that there was patentable subject material over Carey. Examiner agreed and stated in the interview summary that the intelligent component in Carey was set up in predefined stages and in applicant's invention it was set up as a component interface. Applicant's amendment does not claim this subject matter and therefore is not deemed allowable over the prior art.

Conclusion

7. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

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Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Box AF

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703)-308-9051 (**formal** communications intended for entry),

Or:

(703)-305-9724 (**informal** communications labeled **PROPOSED** or **DRAFT**).

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to:

Sixth Floor Receptionist, Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Motilewa Good-Johnson, whose telephone number is (703)-305-3939 and can normally be reached Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 7:30 AM to 6 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Powell, can be reached at (703)-305-9703.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the group receptionist whose telephone number is (703)-305-3900.

Motilewa Good-Johnson
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2779


MARK R. POWELL
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
GROUP 2700